

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 24 and 25, and cancel claims 28-35, 38-45, 47 and 52.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application.

**Listing of the claims**

**1-23. (Cancelled)**

24. **(Previously presented)** A method of treating an individual who has metastasized colorectal cancer comprising the step of administering to such an individual a therapeutically effective amount of an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule that encodes a protein comprising the extracellular domain of human guanylyl cyclase C protein SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment thereof comprising amino acids 24-454 of SEQ ID NO:2.

25. **(Previously presented)** A method of treating an individual who has been identified as being susceptible to metastasized colorectal cancer comprising the step of administering to such an individual a prophylactically effective amount of an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule that encodes a protein comprising the extracellular domain of human guanylyl cyclase C protein SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment thereof comprising amino acids 24-454 of SEQ ID NO:2.

**26-45. (Cancelled)**

46. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 25 wherein the individual has been previously been diagnosed with colorectal cancer.

**47. (Cancelled)**

48. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 24 wherein said protein comprises SEQ ID NO:2.

49. **(Cancelled)**

50. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 47 wherein said protein comprises amino acids 24-454 of SEQ ID NO:2.

51. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 47 wherein said protein comprises amino acids 24-475 of SEQ ID NO:2.

52. **(Cancelled)**

53. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 52 wherein said protein comprises SEQ ID NO:2.

54. **(Cancelled)**

55. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 52 wherein said protein comprises amino acids 24-454 of SEQ ID NO:2.

56. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 52 wherein said protein comprises amino acids 24-475 of SEQ ID NO:2.